

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2560

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, JA

SUBJECT: MEDIA REPORTS GOJ OPPOSITION TO INCLUSION OF
SURCHARGE PROVISION IN US TRADE LEGISLATION

SUMMARAY: NIHON KEIZAI ARTICLE 23 REPORTS THAT GOJ HAS
DECIDED CEASE IMPORT LIBERALIZATION EFFORTS IF US
TRADE LEGISLATION INCLUDES PROVISION FOR
SURCHARGE. MITI MINISTER NAKASONE, IN SUBSEQUENT
COMMENTS TO PRESS, CONFIRMED CONCERN OVER CONTENTS OF
TRADE LEGISLATION. END SUMMARY.

1. MARCH 23 NIHON CEIZAI CARRIED ARTICLE ENTITLED
QTE LIBERALIZATION PLAN TO BE STOPPED IF US IMPOSES
SURCHARGE; FINANCE MINISTER TO TELL US TREASURY
SECRETARY UNQTE. TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

QTE: ACCORDING TO A CLARIFICATION MADE BY A GOVERNMENT
SOURCE ON THE NIGHT OF MARCH 22, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DE-
CIDED TO RETURN COMPLETELY THE IMPORT LIBERALIZATION
PLAN, WHICH OUR COUNTRY IS STUDYING NOW, TO A CLEAR
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SLATE, IF THE NEW TRADE ACT BILL, WHICH THE US GOVERNMENT IS SCHEDULED TO SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE, INCORPORATES THE IS PRESIDENT' S POWER TO IMPOSE AN IMPORT SURCHARGE. FINANCE MINISTER AICHI, WHO WILL LEAVE JAPAN ON THE 24 TH TO ATTEND THE TWENTY- NATION

COMMITTEE FINANCE MINIE PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION.

3. ON THE MATTER OF RESTRICTIONS, SCHMIDT AND ISLER BOTH FEEL THAT THE FIRST GRANT AGREEMENT WAS TOO LIMITED SINCE IT ONLY REFERRED TO REFUGEE ASSISTANCE. THEY WANT TO SEE THE NEW GRANT AGREEMENT EXPANDED TO INCLUDE ASSISTANCE BOTH TO REFUGEES AND TO WAR VICTIMS. SINCE THE NEEDS OF BOTH THE REFUGEES AND WAR VICTIMS ARE SO CLOSELY RELATED, WE ALSO AGREE THAT THE NEW GRANT AGREEMENT SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

4. ORIGINALLY THE IOG WAS ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST THE INDOCHINA COUNTRIES TO REBUILD AFTER THE WAR. WHILE UNABLE TO GET ON NOW WITH A RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM IN CAMBODIA, SCHMIDT HAS DECIDED THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE IOG TO BEGIN SOME TEMPORARY PROGRAMS. TRAVELLING AROUND MUCH OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC, SCHMIDT WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE INADEQUATE MEDICAL FACILITIES IN KOMPONG THOM, SVAY RIENG, AND TAKEO. THE FIRST TWO ARE SURROUNDED BY THE ENEMY AND THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL FACILITIES ARE NOT CAPABLE OF HANDLING THE CONTINUING FLOW OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY CASUALTIES. SCHMIDT HAS SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL TO GENEVA TO FORM THREE IOG MEDICAL TEAMS TO WORK IN THE THREE PROVINCES. GENEVA STILL HAS NOT REPLIED TO HIS PROPOSAL. WE, FOR OUR PART, HAVE EXPRESSED OUR DESIRE TO ASSIST REFUGEES AND WAR VICTIMS IN ANY REASONABLE WAY AND EXPECT TO LOOK AT HIS PROPSAL AS SOON AS APPROVAL ARRIVES FROM GENEVA..
SWANK

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